

Applicants : Douglas J. M. Allen, et al.
Serial No. : Not Yet Known
November 17, 2003 Preliminary Amendment
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Remarks

The subject application is a continuation of U.S. Serial No. 09/355,534, filed July 29, 1999. A Notice of Allowance was issued in connection with U.S. Serial No. 09/355,534 on July 21, 2003 and the issue fee was paid September 30, 2003. U.S. Serial No. 09/355,534, is, therefore, pending and has not issued as a patent and the subject continuation application is co-pending therewith in fulfillment of the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §120.

By this Preliminary Amendment, applicants have amended the specification to incorporate a reference to the parent applications in accordance with 35 U.S.C. §120. Applicants have also added new claims 12-25 and canceled claims 1-11 without prejudice. Accordingly, claims 12-25 are pending in the subject application.

Support for new claims 12 and 13 can be found *inter alia* in the specification, as originally filed, on page 1, lines 8-9.

Support for new claim 14 can be found *inter alia* in the specification, as originally filed, on page 1, lines 29-30.

Support for new claim 15 can be found *inter alia* in the specification, as originally filed, on page 1, line 31 to page 2, line 19.

Support for new claim 16-19 can be found *inter alia* in the specification, as originally filed, on page 7, lines 14-22.

Support for new claim 20 can be found *inter alia* in the specification, as originally filed, on page 7, lines 35-38.

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Support for new claim 21 can be found *inter alia* in the specification, as originally filed, on page 7, line 11.

Support for new claim 22 can be found *inter alia* in the specification, as originally filed, on page 7, line 36.

Support for new claim 23 can be found *inter alia* in the specification, as originally filed, on page 1, lines 14-18.

Support for new claim 24 can be found *inter alia* in the specification, as originally filed, on page 1, lines 31-37.

Support for new claim 25 can be found *inter alia* in the specification, as originally filed, on page 2, lines 31-34.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In accordance with their duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, applicants would like to direct the Examiner's attention to the following documents which are listed on Form PTO-1449 (**Exhibit A**) and are also listed below.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3) before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits. Thus, this Information Disclosure Statement should be entered and considered.

This application is a continuation of U.S. Serial No. 09/355,543, filed July 29, 1999, now allowed.

Copies of the documents listed below as items 1-25, 33-46, 49-62, 66-84, 86-91, 93, 96, 102, and 104 have previously been submitted